

STRIKE IS STILL ON

Roosevelt Cannot Settle It.

WASHINGTON, October 3, 1 A. M.—The railway presidents have made the first move in the mine strike game. A representative of the presidents of the coal railways arrived in Washington and drove at once to the White House. He first saw Secretary Cortelyou, and later had an interview with President Roosevelt. He declared he had been sent by the presidents of the coal railways to make a definite proposal. This is it, in substance:

First—Railway presidents will have nothing to do with President Mitchell or the Mine Workers' Union as an organization.

Second—But they are willing to agree to a court of arbitration of three members, to be selected by the President.

Third—Miners are to return to work at once.

Fourth—Before this tribunal is named by President Roosevelt, the miners, as individuals or by representatives other than the officers of the United Mine Workers, may present their grievances, and the managers of the coal companies will do the same.

Fifth—The corporations agree to abide by the findings of this tribunal.

CONFERENCE FAILS

WASHINGTON, October 3.—The great coal conference between the President and representatives of the operators and miners came to an end at the temporary White House, facing Lafayette square, at 4:55 o'clock this afternoon with a failure to reach an agreement. And apparently the rock upon which the conference split was the recognition of the Miners' Union.

NO EXTRA SESSION.

WASHINGTON, October 4.—There will be no call for an extra session of Congress to deal with the coal strike situation at this stage. The President especially stated in his appeal to the representatives of the miners and the operators yesterday that he did not act officially in calling them together. He has for the time being exhausted his resources. The matter is again one with which the State of Pennsylvania should deal. If the commonwealth finds itself unable to control the situation and appeals to him through the constitutional channels, the President will be ready to bring into play the great force of the National Government, military and civil. But for the time being the President has relaxed his efforts.

A great many radical suggestions have been made as the result of the failure of the conference yesterday and they include everything from taking possession by the Government to sending United States troops to Pennsylvania without regard to any call from the Governor of that State. It can be positively stated that none of these suggestions has received any serious consideration by the Administration.

THE SITUATION.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—It is not yet known whether President Roosevelt will issue a statement commenting upon the result of yesterday's coal conference. Some of the Cabinet members will advise against such a course. There is disappointment that the effort of the President met with no better success but it seems to be the opinion of those who are cognizant of the situation that the Administration can do no more. The good offices of the President to settle the strike was the limit of his power.

Late last evening the operators who were in the conference called upon Secretary Root but the position they had assumed made it impossible to carry the negotiation further, although various phases of the situation were briefly discussed.

President Mitchell and the other members of the anthracite miners' committee who attended yesterday's conference, left Washington at 10:15 today over the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for their headquarters at Wilkes-Barre. Before boarding the train, Mr. Mitchell said that probably soon after his arrival in Wilkes-Barre he would issue directions to the miners as to how to proceed. Asked what directions if any he would issue, he replied that any directions issued would only be for the continuance of the strike.

"Do you feel," he was asked, "that public sentiment will sustain you in continuing the strike?"

"It certainly must do so, after the result of yesterday's conference," he replied. "We are confident that we have the sympathy of every workingman in the country and we believe that we will have the financial support of most of them."

"Is the outside contribution sufficient to relieve present demands?"

"I can't state the exact amount but so far we have been able to relieve all cases of absolute want and we expect the contributions to increase in volume. We feel quite confident of being able to continue the strike through the winter, but we shall regret very much to have to do so, not only on our own account but on account of the public. Indeed, if only the interests of the miners and the operators were concerned, the strike would be of comparatively little importance."

Mr. Mitchell referred to the charge of lawlessness made by the operators yesterday, saying:

"Several of them made the statement that there had been twenty murders by the strikers since the beginning of the strike. We challenged the statement on the spot and I volunteered to tender my resignation then and there if it could be proven that there had been

GENERAL MILES INSPECTS PEARL HARBOR STATION



Nelson A. Miles
U.S. Army

twenty deaths all told from violence since the inception of the strike. The proposition was not accepted. The truth is that there have been just seven deaths and three of those were caused by the coal and iron police employed by the mine operators. The trouble is that these men never go to the mines and they accept without question all the representations made to them."

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.—The presidents of the anthracite coal roads arrived here from Washington on a special train today. E. B. Thomas, chairman of the board of the Erie Railroad Company, who represented that company at the conference with President Roosevelt at Washington, said today:

"There is nothing to add to my statement at Washington yesterday in respect to the proposition made by us that in case we cannot satisfactorily adjust any grievances with our own employees it shall be referred to the judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the district in which the colliery is situated for final determination. This certainly provides a tribunal which affords the miners every possible protection, but we cannot be expected to turn the conduct of property which involves the interests of such a large number of people over to the control of an irresponsible and illegal association and place the lives and property of our loyal employees at their mercy. Our offer affords every opportunity for fair and liberal treatment with appeal to an impartial tribunal free from the influences of the bituminous coal combination. Our forces of men are increasing and we produced yesterday over 4000 tons of coal."

President Truesdale if the Lackawanna road had nothing to add to the statement submitted by him to the President at Washington yesterday. He believed, he said, that it was not the intention of the authorities to call out the Federal troops.

President Fowler of the New York, Ontario & Western road, said:

"It is not unlikely that the public may jump at the conclusion that Mr. Mitchell offered to resume operations immediately in order that the suffering public might be relieved at once. I think it worth while to call attention to the fact that Mitchell offered at yesterday's conference to make an agreement for not less than one year, or more than five years, as may be mutually determined."

"Now, the point I wish to make clear here is this:

"Mitchell cannot order an immediate resumption of work because the by-laws of the United Mine Workers declare that such a proposition must first be submitted to a convention of its delegates. That cannot be done in less than two weeks' time. That much notice, I am told, is called for in the by-laws."

"The public will observe that there is a great difference between resuming work immediately and resuming work at the end of two weeks. In a word, Mitchell's proposition has a sting to it. Moreover, how do the operators know that Mitchell can control his men? Did they go back on him at Hazelton two years ago when he ordered them not to strike?"

"The trouble is that there are two sides to this fight—the responsible side and the irresponsible side. The operators stand for something; the miners are in a position to draw out of any agreement their leaders may make. It is impossible to make a binding agreement with Mitchell."

THE COAL ISSUES.

With the advent of October the mining of anthracite coal had been suspended five months. Millions of people with winter on their heels are without

coal. Even though the strike should be declared off today normal conditions could not obtain in the local market for weeks, and perhaps months. A demand which usually extends itself over a season will seek to be satisfied in a day. Railroads already taxed by an unusually heavy fall traffic will be called on to handle a tonnage of coal that should have been moving from the mines to local depots all summer. Congestion will result. Buyers will bid against each other and there will be a high premium on speedy delivery.

There is an abnormal. Thus the effect of the strike will be felt long after the labor trouble is adjusted or the miners or the operators have submitted.

And yet coal consumers do not even know what all the trouble is about. There are two sides and each side has filed a statement of the case. These statements conflict. The court of public opinion cannot harmonize them, nor can it determine which statement is the correct one.

According to the mine owners, the mine workers, through their president, Mr. John Mitchell, demand—

First, recognition of the union as the representative of the strikers.

Second, an eight-hour work day, and

Third, an increase of wages.

To the first demand the operators reply that they will not recognize the union as a party in the negotiation. They will not arbitrate and will make no agreement with the union. They have said that they are willing to hear their own employees on hours and wages and will make all concessions which, after discussion, shall appear reasonable.

President Baer on February 18, in a letter to the mine workers, wrote:

"We will always receive and consider every application of the men in our employ. We will endeavor to correct every abuse, to right every wrong, to deal justly and fairly with them and to give every man a fair compensation for the work he performs. Beyond this we cannot go."

On September 3 Mr. Baer again said in a public statement: "It is, by reason of varying conditions at each mine, impracticable to adopt a uniform scale of wages for the whole region; but at each colliery every complaint and grievance will be taken up and investigated by the superintendents and adjusted when it is just."

The operators say that if they granted the demand for union recognition they would have to admit.

First, that every workman whose name is not on the union rolls as a member in good standing shall be discharged;

Second, that no non-union men shall hereafter be employed;

Third, that if a union man shall hereafter be dismissed for any cause, he shall be reinstated on demand of the union or its representative; and fourth, that the foremen and superintendents shall be agreeable to the union.

On the other hand the mine workers say this is not a fair statement of the case. Their statement is that on February 14 the United Mine Workers sent a letter to the coal producing companies inviting them to confer over the wage scale for the year beginning April 1, 1902. The companies declined to discuss the question. A convention of the men was held and the following demands were made:

First, an increase of twenty per cent in wages to all men performing contract work.

Second, eight hours to constitute a day's work for all persons employed by the day or week without any reduction in their present wage rate;

Third, coal to be accurately weighed and paid for by weight wherever practicable.

Says He Is Well Pleased by Scenes.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

Lieut. Gen. Miles inspected Pearl Harbor and the sites for the shore defenses yesterday, and after his trip about the east and middle lochs spent a couple of hours on the Oahu plantation, overlooking the mill and the great pumping station with its 12,000,000 gallons pump. The trip was the most extensive one which the general will take, and it gave him the most favorable impression of the capacity of the islands.

There were not a dozen in the party which left the naval docks yesterday morning in the steamer J. A. Cummins for the excursion. Capt. Williamson arranged the journey and those who were on the ship were: Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, Col. M. P. Maus, Col. Girard, Major Charles Davis, Capt. White, of the Navy, Mr. Rouse, Mr. Wiborg, Mr. Hoyt, Mr. J. B. Atherton and Mr. W. F. Dillingham. The trip down was made in good time and the entrance into the lochs was closely inspected by the military men. The sites for the shore batteries were shown from the ship and then passing inside and up to the east loch the location of the various essential features of the naval station were pointed out and discussed.

The tour of the lochs gave an excellent opportunity to see all that was to be seen about the harbor, and then the party debarked and took a special train which was in waiting at the end of the line, and immediately proceeded to Oahu plantation, where the mill and later the pump were looked over. The journey homeward was made with only two stops, one for luncheon at Pearl City and later while at Moanalua, that a view might be had of the Kahaui tract, which it is proposed to make the site of the army barracks.

Gen. Miles said that he had enjoyed to the utmost the opportunity to look over the harbor and the plantations. He said he was greatly charmed with what he had seen and that it had unfolded new ideas as to the wealth of the island, its fertility and resources. As to the harbor he said there was no problem that could not be met easily and that when perhaps after some years there was constructed the yards and its defenses, it would give an impression of the island.

After dining at the hotel Gen. Miles and the members of the party were the guests of honor at a reception and dance at the Hawaiian Hotel, several hundred people being in attendance. The visitors were met by many of the leading people of the city and it was an evening of enjoyment throughout. The ladies of the party and the unofficial members had spent the day driving, the Park, Punchbowl and Waikiki being the points of interest visited.

Gen. Miles will spend today, before the departure of the Thomas, which is still scheduled for noon, in a visit to the Kahaui tract, and a drive to Punchbowl. Col. Maus is a firm believer in the efficacy of a fortification of that point of vantage, as precluding any enemy from ever capturing the city and holding it.

The transport is all ready to sail, and Gen. Miles is anxious to gain time for the remainder of his trip.

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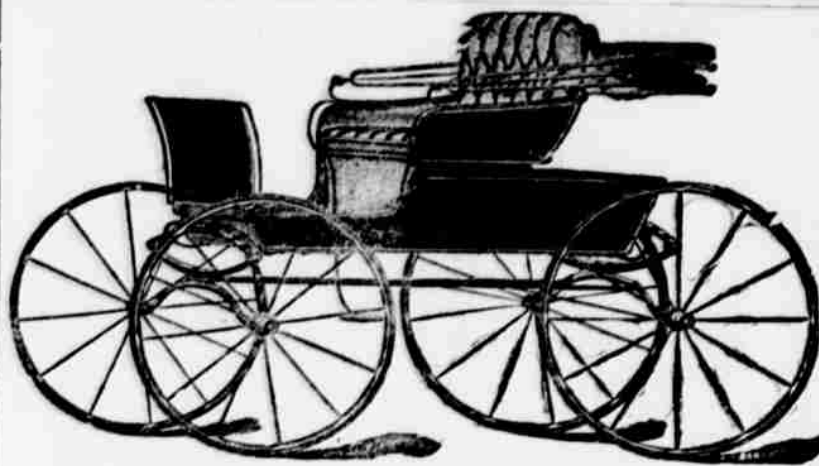
And some people are content with pasting porous plasters on their backs to get the little relief they give. Lumbago is a condition which can be cured by Electricity as I apply it. I can tell you of hundreds of other cures.

My Belt pours a gentle, glowing heat into the back and cures it to stay cured.

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Why the Maine Was Destroyed.

NEW YORK, October 4.—At the annual convention of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, Rev. Henry Varley of London, England, has preached on "Slavery." He said that providence had directed the hand that blew up the Maine in order that Spain might be punished on account of the slavery in Cuba.

Prince Kuhio's Age.

For the information of inquiring voters you can say in your columns that the Bible record of the late Queen Dowager Kapiolani states that Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole was born March 28, 1871. Consequently he is eligible as a candidate for election as our Delegate.

Yours truly,
JOHN F. COLBURN.

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